

STEVE BELICHICK (1919–2005): AN AUTHENTIC COACH AND FATHER

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 17, 2005

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Steve Belichick (1919–2005): an Authentic Coach and Father.

There have been many great images from the New England Patriots dynasty. Tom Brady embracing his teammates after yet another fourth-quarter touchdown. Adam Vinatieri raising his hands after yet another game-winning kick. The Krafts hugging one another after yet another Super Bowl victory.

But the image that might stand out the most is the Gatorade-dousing of Bill and Steve Belichick moments before the Patriots would defeat the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XXXIX. For many New Englanders, it was the first time they had seen Steve Belichick—the man who every New Englander would like to thank for fathering and mentoring the best coach in football.

And like in his 33-year career as an assistant coach at the U.S. Naval Academy, Steve Belichick would need someone else to draw our attention to him, even at a moment of extraordinary personal success. He was his son's role model, and his son was on the verge of coaching the Patriots to an unprecedented third Super Bowl victory in 4 years. It was a moment that any father would savor, and likely in a way that others would detect.

But Steve Belichick never sought public attention recognition of his work, be it his innovative game-plans, exceptional scouting reports, or the invaluable lessons he taught his accomplished son. Instead, he craved the background, the behind-the-scenes world unseen to fans and media, and the world where he would consistently win the high praise of those "in the know." And like any truly substantive professional, Steve Belichick would take enormous personal satisfaction in obtaining the respect of his peers—the very respect that would often elude more celebrated coaches.

Doubtless for that reason, Steve Belichick had remained out of our sight until the camera caught others showering him and son in victory. It is much the same reason why Bill Belichick often deflects praise and attention. It is simply not the Belichick way of doing things.

When Steve Belichick passed away on November 19, 2005 at the age of 86, it was fitting that we remember him as reluctantly tasting success. And it was fitting that he be with his son.

It can be said that a father always dreams of being less accomplished than his own child, because there is no greater accomplishment for any father.

It is a lesson that Steve Belichick has taught us well.

HONORING JENNIFER INMAN

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 17, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer (Stelmach) Inman,

an exemplary community leader and citizen from my district, who was recently named Alumna of the Year at Western Kentucky University.

A 1994 graduate, Jennifer was active in Alpha Gamma Delta, Spirit, and numerous other campus organizations while earning her BS in Agri-Business. Jennifer returned to her hometown of Owensboro shortly after graduation, where she has remained active in WKU alumni relations. She has played an integral role in revitalizing the Owensboro alumni chapter, first as Vice President and now as President. She is currently employed as a marketing consultant and commodities broker with Hayden-Hunt Agri-Marketing.

In addition to her career and work on behalf of WKU alumni, Jennifer Inman is a very active member of the Owensboro community serving as the Vice Chair of the WKU-Owensboro Advisory Council, President of the Daviess County Extension Council, Secretary of the 4-H council, Vice President of the Kentucky Women in Agriculture, and Chair of the Chamber of Commerce Agri-Business Committee. Jennifer is also a member of the Junior League of Owensboro, YMCA Board of Directors, Owensboro Daviess County Tourism Commission and the Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center Advisory Board.

Jennifer has previously been nominated for the Athena Award, recognizing outstanding women leaders in the Owensboro community. She has also served on the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and as Co-Chairperson for the Chamber Young Professionals.

It is my great privilege to recognize Jennifer Inman today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for her lifelong example of leadership and service. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for being named Western Kentucky University Alumna of the Year. Her unique achievements and continued dedication to her community make her an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and respect.

CONGRATULATIONS TO UMS-WRIGHT PREPARATORY SCHOOL ON THEIR 2005 4A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 17, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor UMS-Wright Preparatory School on their 2005 4A Alabama State Football Championship.

In 1893, Dr. Julius T. Wright founded University Military School and Girls Preparatory School in Mobile, AL. In the fall of 1988, both schools merged and began the school year as one. UMS-Wright Preparatory School is a K–12 school with roughly 1250 students enrolled.

Terry Curtis, head football coach and athletic director, lead UMS-Wright to their third Class 4A State championship in the past 5 years. UMS-Wright's record throughout that time has been an incredible 68 wins and only 4 losses, which translates to a winning percentage of .944. In addition, Coach Curtis has been selected as a member of the 2005 Mobile Sports Hall of Fame. Like Coach Curtis, I

am so proud of his players, and I know they worked hard for this great honor.

The UMS-Wright Bulldogs proved they are a team of champions in their victory on December 1, 2005, at Legion Field in Birmingham. They defeated Deshler 42–16 and made UMS-Wright the winners for the night and year.

Both teams had strong support from their families and fans. They traveled to Birmingham to support and cheer on their team. The fan support is a strong symbol of encouragement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating UMS-Wright Preparatory School on their perfect season and State championship. This school deserves public recognition for this great honor.

I extend my congratulations to each member of the team and coaching staff:

UMS-WRIGHT ROSTER

Tom Leatherbury, Senior; Terrell Edwards, Junior; William Harvey, Sophomore; Bobby Jones, Senior; Louis Maisel, Senior; Park Parker, Senior; Chris Carpenter, Junior; Taylor Morrisette, Senior; Brandon Gibson, Junior; Joey Bacon, Senior.

Colin Sigler, Junior; Preston Dial, Senior; Hayes Harris, Senior; Michael Scott, Junior; Taylor White, Senior; Elliott Pennington, Sophomore; Austin Hilyer, Sophomore; Edward Williams, Senior; Miller Wright, Junior; Erling Riis, Junior.

Bill Davis, Sophomore; Drew Allen, Junior; Charles Jackson, Senior; Henry Shields, Junior; Ley Bell, Junior; Blake McMullen, Sophomore; Wyatt Ison, Junior; Rashod Bumpers, Senior; Joe Grady, Junior; Brent Pettie, Sophomore.

Heath McGrew, Sophomore; Tyler Baxter, Sophomore; Robert Williams, Sophomore; Charles Munderloh, Senior; Lee Peters, Sophomore; Conrad Blunk, Junior; Cooper Perdue, Senior; Chris Ramanauskas, Junior; Crain Rogers, Sophomore; Philip Ison, Senior; Chase Cutrell, Sophomore; Howard Walker, Senior.

George Oswalt, Junior; Nelson Argueta, Sophomore; Paul Boulter, Senior; J.J. Gotlieb, Junior; Kyle Rehm, Senior; Anthony Jeleric, Senior; Walker Plash, Senior; Steven Jones, Sophomore.

Raymond Faircloth, Junior; Brooks Hieronymus, Senior; McLeod Chunn, Sophomore; Richard Wilkins, Sophomore; Cameron Gunter, Sophomore; Greg Ziemann, Senior; Kyle Ellis, Junior; and Morgan Kennedy, Sophomore.

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach, Terry Curtis; Assistant Coaches, Brett Boutwell, Rick Cleveland, Brandon Dean, Stacy Harrelson, Gerald Jones, Phil Lazenby, Eddie Roberts, Jerry Simons, Jim Sudeiha, and Don Urquhart.

A TRIBUTE TO ALAN REICH

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 17, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reflect upon the public service of my friend, Alan Reich, who passed away on November 8, 2005.

In 1962, Mr. Reich was 32 years old, a former athlete and Army officer. That year, a swimming accident left him a quadriplegic. Despite this life-changing event and the challenges that quadriplegia brings, he returned to